

## 1999 SENATE BILL 347

January 27, 2000 – Introduced by Senators GROBSCHMIDT and ERPENBACH, cosponsored by Representatives HEBL, GUNDERSON, RICHARDS, DUFF, BOCK, VRAKAS and BERCEAU. Referred to Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 440.03 (16), 440.08 (2) (a) 72. and 470.025 (12) of the statutes;  
2 **relating to:** registration of wetland scientists.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, with certain exceptions, a person may not engage in the practice of professional geology, hydrology or soil science, unless he or she is licensed by the examining board of professional geologists, hydrologists and soil scientists.

This bill creates an additional exception from the licensing requirement for a person who is registered as wetland scientist by the department of regulation and licensing (DORL) and who is engaged in certain activities related to wetlands, including monitoring, delineation, permitting and designing wetland restoration projects or projects to mitigate adverse impacts to wetlands. The bill requires DORL to register as a wetland scientist a person who pays a registration fee and who is certified, registered or accredited as a wetland scientist by a state or national private or professional organization that certifies, registers or accredits wetland scientists and that is recognized by DORL.

A person who is registered as a wetland scientist under the bill must notify DORL if the national organization revokes the person's certification, registration or accreditation, in which case DORL must revoke the person's registration as a wetland scientist.

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For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 440.03 (16) of the statutes is created to read:

2           440.03 **(16)** (a) The department shall grant a certificate of registration as a  
3 wetland scientist to a person if all of the following apply:

4           1. The person is certified, registered or accredited as a wetland scientist by a  
5 state or national private or professional organization that certifies, registers or  
6 accredits wetland scientists.

7           2. The organization that certified, registered or accredited the person under  
8 subd. 1. is recognized by the department.

9           3. The person pays the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1) and files with the  
10 department evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she is certified,  
11 registered or accredited as required under subd. 1.

12           (b) A person who is registered under par. (a) shall notify the department in  
13 writing within 30 days if the organization specified in par. (a) 1. revokes the person's  
14 certification, registration or accreditation. The department shall revoke a certificate  
15 of registration granted under par. (a) if such an organization revokes such a  
16 certification, registration or accreditation.

17           (c) The renewal dates for certificates granted under par. (a) are specified in s.  
18 440.08 (2) (a). Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form  
19 provided by the department and shall include the renewal fee specified in s. 440.08  
20 (2) (a) and evidence satisfactory to the department that the person's certification,  
21 registration or accreditation specified in par. (a) 1. has not been revoked.

